

Lutheran Confessions

Augsburg Confession: Article XVII. Of Christ's Return to Judgment

1] Also they teach that *at the Consummation of the World Christ will appear for judgment*, and 2] will raise up all the dead; He will give to the godly and elect eternal life and everlasting joys, 3] but ungodly men and the devils He will condemn to be tormented without end.

4] They condemn the Anabaptists, who think that there will be an end to the punishments of condemned men and devils.

5] They condemn also others who are now spreading certain Jewish opinions, that before the resurrection of the dead the godly shall take possession of the kingdom of the world, the ungodly being everywhere suppressed.

Article XXI: Of the Worship of the Saints.

1] *Of the Worship of Saints* they teach that the memory of saints may be set before us, that we may follow their faith and good works, according to our calling, as the Emperor may follow the example of David in making war to drive away the Turk from his country. 2] For both are kings. But the Scripture teaches not the invocation of saints or to ask help of saints, since it sets before us the one Christ as the Mediator, Propitiation, High Priest, and Intercessor. 3] He is to be prayed to, and has promised that He will hear our prayer; and this worship He approves above all, to wit, that in all afflictions He be called upon, 1 John 2, 1: 4] *If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father*, etc.

(Bente, F., *Concordia Triglotta*, Milwaukee, Wisconsin: Northwestern Publishing House, 1997).

Put it into Practice

These questions have been put together to help you as you extend and apply tonight's Scripture to your life.

Prayer

O almighty God, by whom we are graciously knit together as one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of Jesus Christ, our Lord, grant us so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living that we may come to those unspeakable joys which you have prepared for those who unfeignedly love you; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **AMEN** (*Collect for All Saints' Day*)

Word of God: St. Matthew 5:1-12 (on back)

Questions to Ponder in Prayer

1. Jesus' Sermon on the Mount begins with these beatitudes and continues through chapter 7. What is a beatitude? Is Jesus speaking words of law or gospel? Note the second part usually gives the reason for pronouncing the blessedness of a particular kind of man.
2. What is the hearer to do with a beatitude? (Psalm 1:1 and Revelation 1:3)
3. Who are the poor in spirit? What does a spiritual poverty look like?
4. Why is it good for believers to know of their poverty?
5. Who are those "who mourn?" What are they mourning? After they are comforted do they cease to mourn?
6. Why are they "meek" and not proud?
7. When will the meek inherit the earth?
8. Who are "those who hunger and thirst for righteousness?" After the people are filled, do they cease to be hungry and thirsty?
9. Who are "the merciful?"
10. What does "pure in heart" describe? Why the reference to the heart? When did they become pure? When will the people see God?
11. Who are the "peacemakers?" Of what kind of peace is it speaking?
12. The eighth beatitude is doubled with "those who are persecuted because of righteousness" identified as "you" (the disciples of Jesus from v.1). What are the persecuted disciples directed to do?
13. Is it comforting to know that the Old Testament prophets were persecuted? Did the persecute the Apostles? Jesus?
14. What is the reason for the prescribed rejoicing and gladness?

6:30 PM "Learn by Heart"

Through simple repetition those present will inwardly digest...

Hymn #408, stanza 1
Lord's Prayer, 2nd Petition and
Meaning, p.302
St. Matthew 5:3

7:00 PM "Catechesis"

+ Opening Verses
"O Lord, open my lips..." p.224

+ Ascription of Praise
"Praise to you, O Christ. Alleluia." p.225

Reading
St. Matthew 5:1-12 (back)

Hymn
"I Am Trusting You, Lord Jesus" #408

Catechesis on... (back)
St. Matthew 5:1-12
Liturgy
Catechism
--prayer based on reading

--prayer based on reading

+ Pray the Primary Texts insert
Ten Commandments
Lord's Prayer
Apostles' Creed
Sacrament of Holy Baptism
Matthew 28:19
Mark 16:16
Confession & Absolution
John 20:22-23
Sacrament of the Altar
Words of Institution

Collect of the Day
--prayer based on reading
R. AMEN
Benediction
R. AMEN

Catechesis on St. Matthew 5:1-12

- 1 And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him. 2 Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying:
- 3 “Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- 4 Blessed are those who mourn, For they shall be comforted.
- 5 Blessed are the meek, For they shall inherit the earth.
- 6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled.
- 7 Blessed are the merciful, For they shall obtain mercy.
- 8 Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God.
- 9 Blessed are the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God.
- 10 Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
- 11 “Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. 12 Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

The Catechism

The Apostles’ Creed p. 301-302

Third: “...In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith...”

On the Last Day he will raise me and all the dead and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.”

Lord’s Prayer p. 302

Second Petition – “...here in time and there in eternity...”

Third Petition – “...and when He strengthens and keeps us firm in His Word and faith until we die...”

Baptism

Second.—“... and gives eternal salvation to all who believe this, as the words and promises of God declare...”

Lord’s Supper p.305

Fourth: “For where there is forgiveness of sins there is also life and salvation.”

The Liturgy

Divine Service

Proper Preface p.170

“Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven...” (also pages 146-148)

Matins -- Prayer A p.220

“...with all your saints come to eternal blessedness...”

Vespers – Prayer “In the evening” p.233

“...the repose of the blessed dead...”

Evening Prayer – end of Litany p.260

“...rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints...”

CATECHESIS ON ST. MATTHEW 5:1-12



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